

A photograph of a young Black couple embracing and smiling. The woman is on the left, wearing a white tank top, and the man is on the right, also in a white tank top. They are positioned in front of a solid pink background.

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Mayor
Mary T. Bassett, MD, MPH
Commissioner



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HOORAY FOR OLD HOLLYWOOD

'Hail, Caesar!' shows the seedy side of the past. 15-16

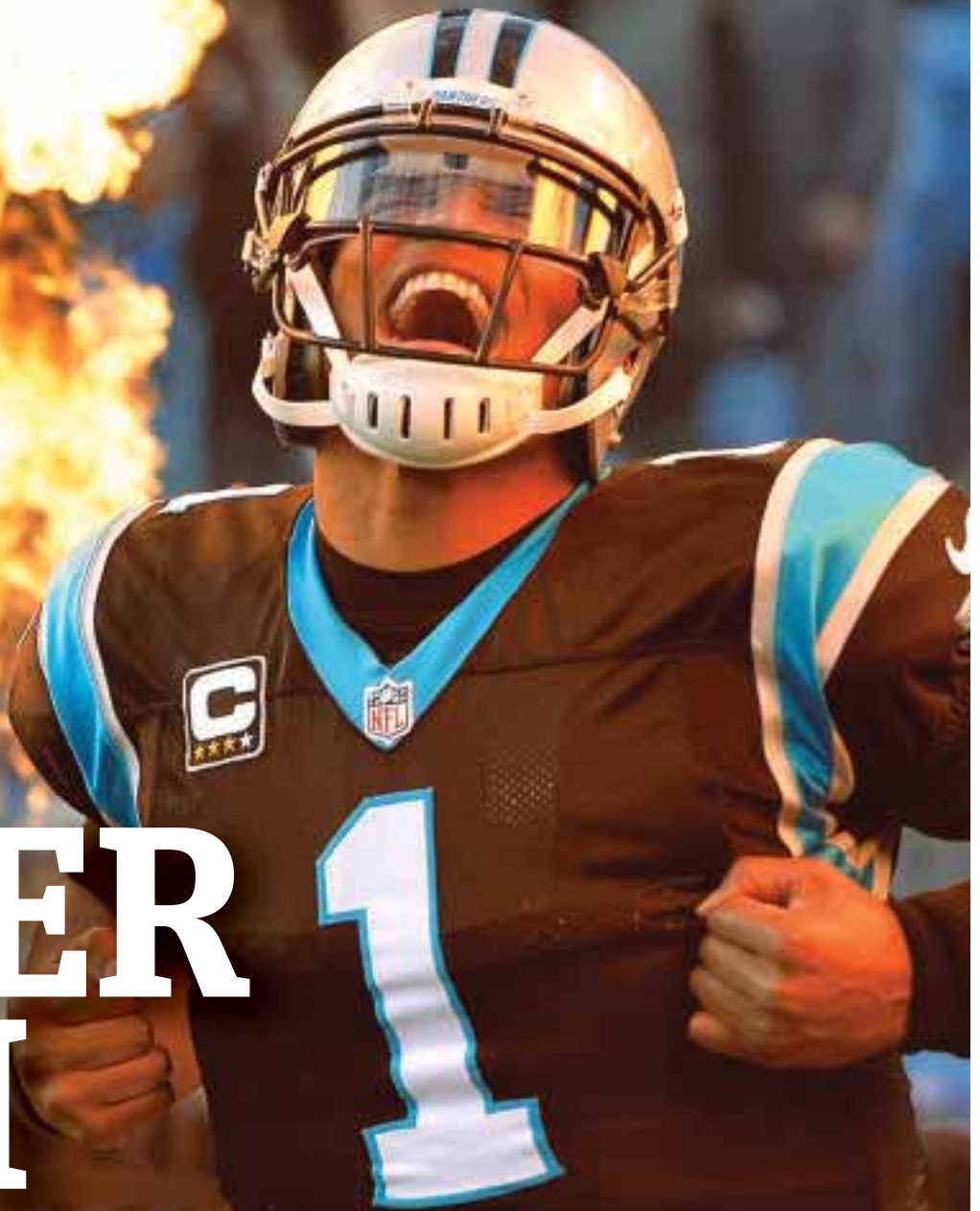
Eat this on game day. 18



Two cops hit by gunfire in Bronx
Melrose Houses on Thursday night. 4

Super Bowl 50 could be Cam
Newton's coming out party.
We look at the top storylines
for Sunday's big game. 20-21

SUPER CAM



GETTY IMAGES

POWELL'S EMAIL ACCOUNT

1 Former Secretary of State Colin Powell and aides to his successor Condoleezza Rice both received classified emails on personal email accounts, the top Democrat on a key congressional oversight panel said Thursday. House Oversight Committee ranking Democrat Elijah Cummings said the disclosures about the emails were made by the State Department's inspector general, who is reviewing email practices of five previous secretaries of state. **REUTERS**



US LABOR MARKET

2 The number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits rose more than expected last week, suggesting some loss of momentum in the labor market amid a sharp economic slowdown and stock market selloff. Signs of creeping employment weakness were also flagged by another report Thursday showing a 218 percent jump in announced job cuts by U.S.-based employers in January. The planned layoffs were concentrated in the energy and retail sectors. **REUTERS**

TROUBLE FOR GoPro

3 GoPro's fall from grace has created a rush by traders to short the camera maker's stock, but they may soon face a squeeze as institutional shareholders sell their shares after six months of declines. GoPro's troubles worsened when it forecast current-quarter revenue well below analysts' estimates, adding to a string of disappointments by a company that a year ago was a Wall Street favorite. **REUTERS**



7
THINGS YOU
NEED TO KNOW

THE DOG
WHISPERER

7 Dog trainer Cesar Millan and his dog Junior pose for a photo as they visit the Empire State Building on Thursday.

MAIN PHOTO BY CHARLES MOSTOLLER, ALL OTHER PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

COPS FIND GUNS IN CAR

4 Terrell Smith found himself in handcuffs Wednesday night after police arrested him on a slew of charges — including numerous counts of criminal possession of a weapon and assault on a police officer. When officers saw that all four tires of Smith's car were flat, they investigated further. As they approached the vehicle, the cops saw Smith exit the car and throw a firearm onto the front seat before fleeing on foot. **ANGY ALTAMIRANO**



UN TO RULE ON ASSANGE

5 WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange's three-and-a-half-year stay in the Ecuadorian embassy in London to avoid rape investigation in Sweden amounts to "arbitrary detention," a United Nations panel will rule Friday. Assange, a former computer hacker who has been holed up in the embassy since June 2012, told the U.N. Working Group on Arbitrary Detention that he was a political refugee whose rights had been infringed by being unable to take up asylum in Ecuador. **REUTERS**

SITTER BURNS TODDLER

6 A Queens babysitter is facing serious charges after she scalded a 2-year-old for getting syrup all over his hands, prosecutors said. Yvette Douglas, 20, of Cambria Heights, Queens, is currently awaiting arraignment on charges of second-degree assault and endangering the welfare of a child. If convicted, she could be in prison for up to seven years. **CRISTABELLE TUMOLA**



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Two NYPD officers shot, shooter dead

Two police officers on patrol inside a housing project in the Bronx were shot Thursday night as Mayor Bill de Blasio gave his State of the City speech.

One officer reportedly sustained a graze wound to the face. The other officer, reportedly a female, was struck in the torso, investigators said.

"One of [the] individuals fired at our officers. The suspect then fled to an apartment on the seventh floor," said First Deputy Commissioner Ben Tucker at a 10 p.m. press conference.

Inside the shooter's apartments, police "discovered several individuals, as well as a suspect who was dead of an ap-

parent self-inflicted gunshot wound," Tucker said. A semiautomatic weapon and a shotgun were recovered from the apartment.

Several individuals were taken to the 40th Precinct for the investigation, police said.

The 40th Precinct officers were shot inside the Melrose Houses project

at 320 East 156th Street while conducting a drug-related investigation.

Both officers had two years on the force and were reportedly taken to Lincoln Hospital.

"Thank God, so far in both cases their condition is good," Mayor Bill de Blasio said at the press conference in the hospital. "Both officers have

been alert and communicating, so we are praying for the best here."

The motive for the shooting was unknown. The officers involved in a routine patrol at the time of the shooting.

The officers and the deceased suspect's identities were withheld pending family notification.



Deputy Commissioner Ben Tucker
NYPD/TWITTER

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A horse and carriage is parked next to a taxi near Central Park. GETTY IMAGES

City abandons horse carriage restriction bill after union leaves

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said on Thursday a proposal to rein in horse-drawn carriages had collapsed after the labor union that helped negotiate the compromise withdrew its support.

The abrupt reversal came just one day before the City Council was set to vote on a bill that would have cut the number of drivers from 220 to 95. The loss of union backing for the deal was a political setback for de Blasio, who pledged during his 2013 campaign to eliminate the iconic carriages.

The Teamsters local union, which represents carriage drivers and had worked with de Blasio to craft a deal that stopped short of a total ban, said on Thursday it had decided it could no longer support the legislation.

"With the legislation now finalized, our members are not confident that it provides a viable

future for their industry," union President George Miranda said.

Earlier this week, the union had acknowledged the bill was not ideal but said "the goal has always been to preserve this industry."

In a statement, de Blasio said the Teamsters had backed away even though nothing had changed.

"While we are disappointed this bill will no longer be considered Friday, the people of this city know what I believe, and we will work toward a new path on this issue," he said.

Under the bill, horse-drawn carriages, which currently offer limited rides on city streets, would have been prohibited from doing so. The city would also have converted a portion of the park into a stable that would house all carriage horses by October 2018.

REUTERS

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Subway riders don't want to be woken up

Many straphangers say a power nap is inevitable after a long day.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

For the city that never sleeps, snoozing on the subway could be a golden time after a long day, so the idea of having those moments taken away has many commuters furious.

The NYPD announced Wednesday that it would be adding more officers to subway patrols who will be instructed to wake up riders who are taking a nap while on the train.

Police Commissioner Bill Bratton said that riders who fall asleep become easy targets from criminals on the subway, according to the New York Post.

"Seriously, by sleeping you make yourself, as reflected in our crime state, a very easy victim to lose your phone, to lose your wallet, to lose some of your clothing items," Bratton said.

Since 2016 began, there have been 25 more felonies on the subway system than the same month in 2015, the Post



A man sleeps in a subway train. GETTY IMAGES

reported. Subway crimes are up to 6.65 crimes per day — up from 4.8 during the same time in 2015.

In one recent incident, on Feb. 2 at about 3 a.m. a 37-year-old man was asleep onboard a 4 train when he felt a tug on his pants, police said. When he woke up he saw another man standing over him holding a razor in his hand and realized his jeans being cut in the left pocket area. The victim tried to restrain the suspect but was punched in the face and the man fled the train at the 51st Street station. The suspect is also wanted for another attempted subway robbery in January.

However, although safety is on the mind of

and that riders should be more vigilant of their surroundings.

"I have to be up for classes really early, and closing my eyes for a bit is what I need to pick me up for the day," said Angelique Gimble from Brooklyn. "Police should look for the bad guys, not spend time waking people."

Will Kaback from the Bronx added that for a lot of people like himself, subway rides can last a long time before you reach your final destination.

"I get the safety part [of it], but sometimes you've worked a long day and can't stop from falling asleep," he said. "Just pay attention to who is around you."

Bratton made the announcement alongside Mayor Bill de Blasio on Wednesday after also stating that the first month of 2016 was the safest since the NYPD has been keeping record.

According to the NYPD, January saw 44 fewer crimes than in 2015 — with a decrease of 0.6 percent. The low crime numbers were in the categories of murder, robbery, burglary, grand larceny auto and shootings.

Reactions

After Metro New York reported on Wednesday's announcement, numerous readers commented on Metro's Facebook page with messages of disbelief — and some anger.

"Blame the victim ... had it coming because he or she dozed off," wrote reader Allan Shweky.

Another reader, Joe Nardiello, said, "Most of the people slashed had their eyes open."

every straphanger, many were outraged with the news saying that taking a power nap on the subway will be prohibited

STORM TO DELIVER WET KISS TO NYC

Bolaris' Weather Watch



A rapidly intensifying storm now moving quickly up the coast will make your morning commute a snowy mess.

This storm has been handled badly by all of the computer models, as it was supposed to pass harmlessly out to sea. However, over the past 18 to 24 hours, a significant shift to the west in the storm track, along with a more intense system, has caught us off guard.

The biggest impact today will be for southern New England and Boston, where the rain will be changing over to heavy wet snow.

New York City should see a slushy mess as the overnight rain changes to morning snow. Roadways could become covered as the snow intensity reaches its maximum during your morning commute.

Eastern New Jersey will be closer toward the storm center and this should lead to higher amounts of snow in all locations across eastern New Jersey, except along the shore points, where plenty of mixing will take place. The saving grace

NYC

The storm will make your Friday morning commute hectic. Luckily, temperatures have been relatively mild over the past few days, so the snow will have a tough time sticking to the pavement.

However, as the snow intensifies, this will allow for a rapid cooling of temperatures and then the snow will start sticking on the roadways, especially the secondary streets. The snow will come down heavy at times this morning, but fortunately the storm is

with this storm is that it is a quick mover and this will keep snow amounts

rapid, and this, combined with the mild start, will keep snow amounts limited.

Look for 2 to 4 inches across most of the area, with the city proper receiving 1 to 3 inches — as long as this storm behaves itself. The good news is that skies will start to clear during the mid-afternoon hours and it will be a dry evening commute. More trouble could be brewing for early next week as models are trying to figure out the exact placement of a coastal storm, which is thus far leaning out to sea. But then again, that was the indication for today's storm.

limited across NYC, where the sun will return by this afternoon.

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Professional Certificate Programs

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• Security Guard 16-hour Course	FRI	03/04-03/05/16, 04/08-04/09/16	

Health Careers Certifications

• C.N.A Evening	M-TH	02/22-05/09/16	6pm-9pm
• C.N.A Morning	M-TH	02/22-04/06/16	9am-2pm
• CPR/AED for Healthcare Providers	SAT	02/20, 03/26	10am-2pm
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• EKG Technician	SAT	02/20-04/16/16	10am-1pm
• EKG Technician	T, TH	02/16-03/22/16	6pm-9pm
• Dental Assistant	M, W	02/22-05/23/16	6pm-9pm
• Pharmacy Technician	T, W, TH	02/16-05/03/16	6pm-9pm
• Clinical Medical Assistant	M, T, TH	02/29-06/16/16	6pm-9pm
• Proteccion de Alimentos	SAT	02/20-02/27, 04/16, 04/23	9:30am-5:30pm
• Medical Billing & Coding Specialist	T, TH	02/16-12/15/16	6pm-9pm

Children's Programing

• College for Kids	SAT	2/6-4/2/16	
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Education & Language Skills

• English Links/Inglés Intensivo	M-FRI	02/16-04/26/16	9am-1:30pm
• English Links/Inglés Intensivo	SAT	02/20-04/09/16	9am-2pm
• ESL/Inglés como Segundo Idioma	M, W	02/08-04/20/16	6pm-9pm
• HSE English	T, TH	02/16-05/05/16	9:30am-12:30pm
• HSE English	T, TH	02/16-05/05/16	6pm-9pm
• HSE Spanish	M, W	02/17-05/04/16	9:30-12:30pm
• HSE Spanish	M, W	02/17-05/04/16	6pm-9pm

Enrichment Program

• Actuacion para Cine	SAT	02/20-04/30/16	6pm-9pm
• Politics & Government	WED	02/10-04/20/16	7pm-9pm
• Event Planning	SAT	02/06-04/09/16	1pm-5pm
• Event Planning	TH	02/4-04/21/16	6pm-9pm

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Community Policing & Civil Rights

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Leo Glickman, of Stoll, Glickman & Bellina, LLP, has devoted his professional life of over two decades to holding the powerful accountable and obtaining justice for the underserved. As a civil rights litigator, he has successfully represented hundreds of victims of abuses of power. He has also upheld the rights of protestors, successfully litigating settlements for high-profile Occupy Wall Street activists. Prior to founding his firm, Glickman was Counsel to Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields, and handled the office's civil rights policies.

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Proposed streetcar to allow the city to compete globally, but not anytime soon

One transit expert says doubters should contribute to the planning process and give it a chance.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
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A proposed streetcar, which will stretch along the East River connecting Brooklyn and Queens, is expected to bring New York City up to date with cities across the world — but much has to be done before it becomes a reality.

Mayor Bill de Blasio unveiled the proposal for the waterfront rail line during his State of the City speech Thursday night.

The idea of the 16-mile ride, which plans to take passengers from Sunset Park all the way up to Astoria, was drafted by the nonprofit group Friends of the Brooklyn Queens Connector — made up of real estate and community leaders.

“It’s something I think is going to make a huge impact for hundreds of thousands of people. And by the way, we’re talking about neighborhoods that are growing in terms of population,” de Blasio said during a radio interview with Hot 97.

For Robert Paaswell, distinguished professor of civil engineering at CUNY City College, the idea of the streetcar — which he said will be more of a light rail — will allow the Big Apple to get on the same page as many European cities.

He added that the proposed line would bring accessibility to areas, which in just the past few years have been restored with vibrancy because of



A rendering of the streetcar FRIENDS OF THE BROOKLYN QUEENS CONNECTOR

younger generations moving in.

When questioned about the possibility of traffic congestion, Paaswell explained that the rail line is coming during a time when less people are depending on cars and want to find alternatives to getting around.

“When you take cars off a street, people find other ways and they adjust to it so it isn’t a tragedy,” he said.

Although some people

have commented asking why the city doesn’t use the funds that will go to creating this rail line and instead improve the MTA subway system, Paaswell said that the city needs all options and that the MTA is doing well with the money it has.

“That doesn’t mean you have to ignore the rest of the city because you’ll always be playing catch up,” he said.

According to an MTA representative, the agency

has had “productive discussions with the private sector leaders who have developed this idea.”

“We are interested in hearing more about the mayor’s plan and any other proposals to improve transportation options,” the spokesman said.

When it comes to paying for the project — de Blasio said the project would cost about \$2.5 billion in taxes from the higher property values in the surrounding areas — Paaswell said the investment is small compared to what the city will get back.

However, he added that because the rent in the area will increase and more taxes will be paid he believes developers in those neighborhoods

should have to put money into the project as well.

“The public shouldn’t invest to make investors rich,” he said.

Although reports have said that construction could begin by 2019 — with service not starting until 2024 — Paaswell said that he believes it would be close to four to five years before anything actually begins to happen.

The city must now begin to plan the project and hold public hearings.

Paaswell recommends those who question the project to get involved.

“If you are weary, give it a chance,” Paaswell said. “When the people come around to your neighborhood, contribute to the ideas ... be part of the solution.”

Read more about the State of the City address at metro.us

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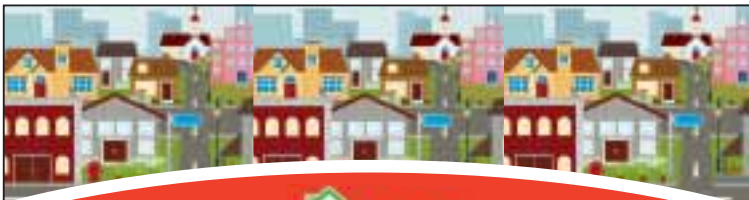
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IF SANDERS WERE FEMALE, HE'D BE UNELECTABLE

When I saw how narrowly Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton beat Bernie Sanders in the Iowa caucuses this week, I was surprised.

Taking less than a percentage point loss, Sanders redefined the defeat as a "virtual tie." The senator from Vermont has been framed as the underdog in this race, going up against a front-runner and party favorite.

Sanders speaks of a "revolution," going after the big banks while liberating the 99 Percent. Clinton is more reserved than that, choosing to push policy that will help mend the current congressional divides instead.

At first glance, it's easy to position Sanders as "the people's champ," going up against the establishment.

But then you have to remember that Sanders is an old white man who has been in office for decades, while Clinton is an experienced stateswoman trying to prove to American once again that she's presidential material.

If the gender roles were reversed, we wouldn't be giving Sanders this much attention. Pound-for-pound, he lacks the political capital, experience and pedigree that Clinton possesses.

Suddenly, when the tables are turned in favor of female empowerment, it's no longer desirable for candidates to be well-

ERNEST OWENS

The Ernest Opinion

Award-winning multimedia journalist Ernest Owens is a keen observer of social, LGBT and race issues in Philadelphia. Follow him @MrErnestOwens



connected. This revelation exposes how much the nation's deep-seated sexism plays a role in imposing double standards on women running for office.

For one, since when did having too much experience become a political sin? Many supporters tout Sanders' linear voting record as a way of countering the more administrative moves made by Clinton throughout the years.

Although senatorial votes are important, they don't compare to the significance of that role and secretary of state combined. Clinton has respectfully worn both hats and has tackled different sets of challenges that are more complex than just taking

a stand on behalf of a small state.

In other words, it's easier for Sanders to declare bold solutions in Congress because such decisions aren't as risky or immediate as the ones Clinton's had to make during her more diverse leadership. She shouldn't be penalized for not being a radical revolutionary when working under a more levelheaded commander in chief.

But Bernie knows nothing about those obstacles because, unlike Hillary, he's kept the same job. And for many voters, his male privilege still entitles him to feel qualified enough for the presidency.

Meanwhile, Hillary's had to humble herself after initially losing the Democratic nomination to then-Sen. Barack Obama in 2008, then working in his administration to prove she was worthy of running again. It would be immature to label her as a spoiled political successor when she has broken multiple glass ceilings in order to be taken seriously again.

If the GOP could give Mitt Romney a second shot after his failed bid in 2008, Democrats owe it to Hillary to see what she will do this time.

I could see it if Vice President Biden was up against Clinton, but Sanders' hyper-liberal pandering shouldn't hold as much of a candle to her.

Let's not forsake our progressiveness when it comes to women in politics.



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- Bowling Green-bound trains run local from 125 St to Grand Central-42 St**
- Trains run via the F in both directions between 14 St and Jay St-MetroTech**
- Inwood-bound trains skip 72, 81, 86, 96, 103, 110 & 116 Sts**
- Jamaica Center-bound trains run express from 21 St-Queensbridge to 71 Av**
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- Manhattan-bound trains make local stops at 14 St and 23 St**
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- No trains between Myrtle Av and Essex St**
- Coey Island-bound trains run local from 71 Av to 21 St-Queensbridge**
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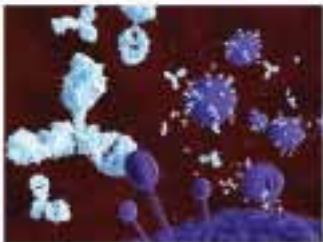
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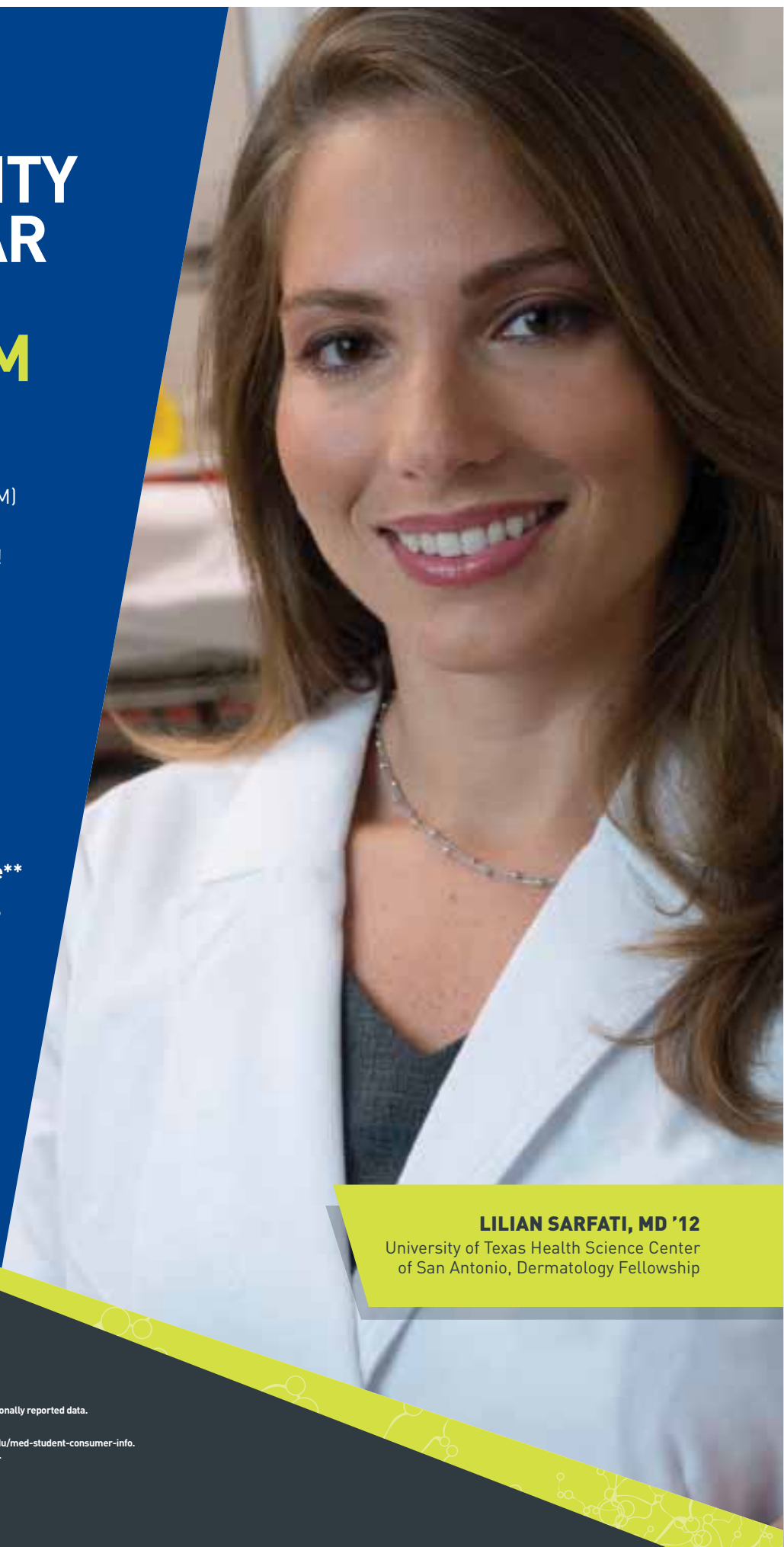
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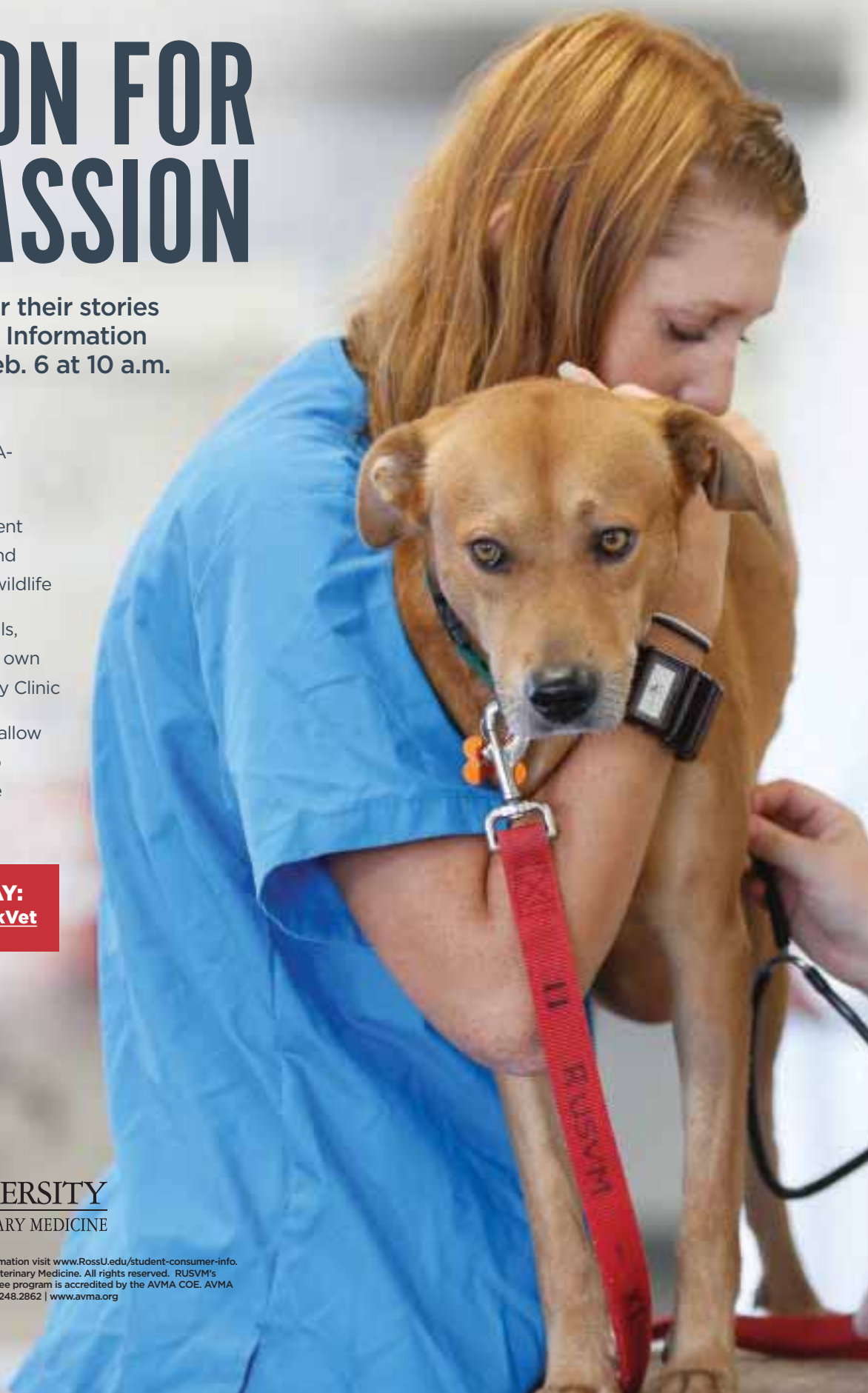
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5 Signs you're ready for grad school

If you're already checking admissions requirements, it's time to go back to class.



Do you have lofty ideas about pursuing grad school, but aren't sure it's the right time? Asking yourself a few key questions can help you gauge your readiness. Here are five signs you're ready to enroll in a postgraduate degree program.

1 You're passionate about your subject

If you have a specific postgraduate program in mind, and already engage with that subject in various aspects of your life, then you're unlikely to have any problems staying motivated and



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enthusiastic about your studies in grad school. In fact, since you'll have the chance to investigate the field in more depth, grad school will (hopefully) only increase your passion for your

chosen subject.

2 You miss studying and university life

You may never have thought you'd say this

during those times of stressful undergraduate exams and essay deadlines, but it turns out you miss the intellectual stimulation of studying, or simply sitting in a lecture hall and feeling

inspired by the wisdom of a charismatic professor. You might also miss the wider university experience – clubs, sports and meeting new people from many different walks of life.



3 Grad school would help your career prospects

If the next step toward the career you've always dreamed of requires an advanced degree, then grad school is pretty much a no-brainer. You know you're ready for grad school if you've got a plan for how this fits into your career progression. If grad school is going to get you closer to your goals (not to mention to possibly earning the big bucks), then go for it!

4 You've thought about funding

You need to have at least some kind of financial plan before you're ready for grad school; while many Ph.D. positions are fully funded, master's programs often require a substantial investment. Whether it's through scholarships, loans or parental sponsorship, you need to consider how to cover your expenses. Don't get too caught up in financial worries; remember

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your postgraduate degree is an investment in your future, which should pay for itself in the long term.

5 You know how to apply

If you've started checking the admission requirements, deadlines and general ins and outs of your postgraduate course, and basically know exactly what you're doing (if not, don't worry!) then you're definitely ready to pursue your studies in grad school. Good luck! SABRINA COLLIER



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Josh Brolin *freaks out*

In the Coen brothers' "Hail, Caesar!" Josh Brolin plays a slightly nicer version of notorious Hollywood "fixer" Eddie Mannix. ALISON ROSA

THE FUN STARTS HERE

The actor worries about how good his acting is, even when working on the Coen brothers' "Hail, Caesar!"



MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

Josh Brolin has a (very mild) beef with his father, fellow actor James Brolin. Josh's middle name is James, and he wonders why his dad didn't just make it his first.

"I don't get it," Brolin the younger jokes. "I understand naming your kid your actual name, because there's some pride in that. But when you get the middle name it's like you weren't good enough for the first."

Since Hollywood runs in his genes, it's appropriate he stars in "Hail, Caesar!", a portrait of the Golden Age circa the 1950s. The Oscar nominee, 47, plays Eddie Mannix, a slightly fictionalized version of Hollywood's most notorious "fixer": a studio figure whose job involved hiding up scandals, even ones about sex and murder. Brolin's third film with the Coen brothers (after "No Country for Old Men" and "True Grit"), it finds him dealing with an AWOL movie star (George Clooney) and other headaches.

Like a lot of Coen films, there's a lot to unpack. It was very interesting to watch it. I didn't think it was nearly as interest-

ing when I was doing it. And I'm the first guy to watch a movie I'm in and say, "Eh, it's OK!" I was as objective as I could be and I thought it was one of their better films.

Is that nerve-racking for you: watching a film once it's completed?

It's enervating. It's unnerving. You [the audience] are seeing it after the fact, but I'm starting it before anything happens. We're all living in nervousness about what could go wrong. [Laughs] This role is hyperspecific but the guidelines are so general. There's no way to play it with any specificity. There's a lot of room for failure. Which I like, in hindsight, but not during the process. I hate it during the process.

The movie's version of Eddie Mannix isn't exactly like the real one. Did you still do a deep dive in Hollywood history?

I wasn't told by the brothers that it wasn't the same guy, maybe because they were interested in me finding him for myself. Not that he's nothing like him. He's still Norman Mailer-simian-brutish. But he's very different when it comes to his faith and his family, which he's pretty hard-core about. He's a fairly diplomatic and nice guy. The real Eddie Mannix was violent all around. I read a book called "The Fixers," which had [fellow fixer] Howard Strickling and [studio heads] Louis B. Mayer and Irving Thalberg. He's an amalgamation of all

those guys. His levity, his religious beliefs — all that's Thalberg.

How did you come up with that very Jersey voice?

I would try on different cadences. I would listen to Bud Abbott, because he was from Jersey. I always liked his accent, but I wanted to go further with it, but without going so far that it sounded phony. That's why I liked the scene with his wife, played by Alison Pil. There's something very human about him in that scene.



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"Hail, Caesar!" features lots of old genres being recreated, including a sailor musical starring Channing Tatum. ALISON ROSA

"Hail, Caesar!"

Director: Joel and Ethan Coen
Stars: Josh Brolin, George Clooney
Rating: PG-13

• • • • •

"Hail, Caesar!" is the lightest, most fleet-footed film the Coen brothers have made — but if you know the Coens, you know they're rarely more serious than when they're having fun. Like "Burn After Reading," it's a secret reminder of cosmic insignificance and existential dread, in this case couched in catnip to both Coen heads and TCM addicts. It takes a long, deep stew in Golden Age Hollywood, tossing off veiled references to swimming pool star Esther Williams, the strange (and once insanely popular) genre of singing cowboys and, most prominently, Eddie Mannix (James Brolin), the notorious "fixer" who kept scandals perpetrated by MGM property (i.e., its stars) out of the papers.

Naturally the Coens make him our hero — or a softened, fictionalized version of him, anyway. We see 36 hours in the life of Brolin's deadpan Mannix, a day that begins well before dawn and is so

jam-packed he doesn't even seem flustered when one of his stars (George Clooney) is drugged and kidnapped by a group of commie screenwriters. After all, he has to get rid of slimy photographers, distract gossip columnists (played by dueling Tilda Swintons) and find a husband for an Esther Williams-type (Scarlett Johansson), whose out-of-wedlock pregnancy means she soon won't fit into what she calls her "fish a—" mermaid costume.

There's a lot of plot but, like "The Big Lebowski," none of it really matters and it intentionally peters out. Tangents are welcome, and at worst "Hail, Caesar!" is a battering ram of one great scene after another, many of them recreations of B-Westerns, Biblical epics, dramas and two separate types of musicals. As ever, the Coens mix love with mockery, and since this is one of their comedies — like "Burn After Reading," the bleakest (and maybe funniest) of all their films — the dark underbelly hurts creeps on you. If the Hollywood focus connects it to "Barton Fink," it shares equal amounts of DNA with "A Serious Man," only with the perspective on a godlike figure himself. Smile and laugh at your own peril. MATT PRIGGE

"The Choice"

Director: Ross Katz
Stars: Teresa Palmer, Ben Walker
Rating: PG-13

• • • • •

Is the new Nicholas Sparks mess supposed to be funny? Like, on purpose? It's surreal watching "The Choice," this year's cornball soap about sun-dappled lovers writing notes to each other and saying things like, "You remember what you said while holding my hand under the stars?" until one of them gets into an accident or dies. But sometimes it seems like "The Choice" has gone rogue and realized these movies are best treated as jokes.

Either way, it delivers the goods, such as they are. Good ol' boy North Carolinian Travis

(Ben Walker) is a day-drinking louse with a Sexy Foghorn Leghorn accent and bad hair. He's the usual Sparks bro, ripe for reform by a kindly, hot woman. She arrives in the form of Gabby (Teresa Palmer), an aspiring doctor who isn't one of the author's usual willowy ladyfriends. She's perky and excitable, sometimes acting like she's in a Kate Hudson rom-com. At calmer times they remark knowingly on hitting all the story beats, including the requisite left-field God talk.

Is "The Choice" trying to break free of formula? Sometimes, a little, maybe. You can sometimes sense it nudging things away from the strict parameters of the franchise into something genuinely charming, even genuinely romantic. Gabby and Travis' first hook-up is actually steamy (in a tasteful



You better believe there's some good hugging in the new Nicholas Sparks thing. LIONSGATE

PG-13 way, natch). It's even set to The National, which in the tasteful confines of the Sparks Cinematic Universe is like blasting GG Allin. "The Choice" might have even gotten away with it if it wasn't for that meddling third act. Not

even a concentrated saboteur could ruin the mawkishness to come, which isn't even inspired, far from the tasteless insanity that made "Safe Harbor" and "The Best of Me" instant camp classics. Sparks, as always, wins. MP



Bella Heathcote and Lily James play classic lit staples battling the undead in "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies." SCREEN GEMS

"Pride and Prejudice and Zombies"

Director: Burr Steers
Stars: Lily James, Sam Riley
Rating: PG-13

• • • • •

Is it that hard? Is it really that hard making an enjoyable period romp in which Jane Austen quip-flingers battle the undead? Of course it is! You have to find actors adept at both arch romantic swooning and cold-hard badassery. You have to meld genres that stand in stark opposition to each other.

Horror fans must suffer through tasteful, immaculately costumed pageantry before getting to splattered blood and guts. Meanwhile Austen heads have to swoon at some of literature's finest, most flowery banter before flinching at exploded heads. In other words, it sounds amusing in theory, and then only for a bit. For it to work in practice, you need a miracle worker.

The "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" movie — based on an elaborate one-joke book by Seth Grahame-Smith — didn't get one. The director is Burr Steers, the snide smartass behind "Igby Goes Down," who can handle neither Masterpiece Theatre pomp nor beasties being dispatched. "Downton Abbey's" Lily James is a fierce but not very charming Elizabeth, who, on top of fending off

unwanted suitors, also keeps blades underneath her gowns. She doesn't have much chemistry with Sam Riley's Mr. Darcy, now a zombie hunter who's more unpleasant than fastidious.

And so you get a so-so Austen movie paired with a neutered zombie movie, arriving in an era, thanks to "The Walking Dead" and the "World War Z" film, in which we've allowed our undead entertainments to go PG-13. It doesn't even seem to know it should be a comedy. Instead it allows the grimness of a Georgian-era zombie apocalypse turn too grim, with visuals that are too murky, even when the characters are lightly volleying one-liners. It's less a clever reworking of an unstoppable lit classic than mere fan fiction, and one that grows less witty the longer it endures. MP

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From 'Downton Abbey' to killing the undead



Lily James finally gets to play Elizabeth Bennet — sort of — in “Pride and Prejudice and Zombies.”



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Lily James knows a thing or two about British costume drama, having just wrapped up her run on “Downton Abbey.” But her new project adds something a bit otherworldly to the mix. In “Pride and Prejudice and Zombies,” James top-lines as Jane Austen’s classic heroine, Elizabeth Bennet, but with some deadly fighting skills she unleashes on a 19th century English zombie invasion. Just like a proper lady.

Did the zombie aspect take some of the edge off of playing Elizabeth Bennet, something of a literary icon?



Lily James’ Elizabeth Bennet gets ready to battle the undead in “Pride and Prejudice and Zombies.” SCREEN GEMS

No, it didn’t take the edge off, but it was certainly my main ... You always have things that you grapple with while you’re filming, and for me it was trying to maintain all the qualities about Liz Bennet that I love and I think are vital, and keeping them alive within this new world. Sometimes it was easy, and other times I felt like I was losing the

essence of Liz Bennet. That’s when I felt like I needed help from Burr [Steers, director].

Were you familiar with any other Austen novels? Do you have a favorite? “Pride and Prejudice” is actually my favorite. I did “Emma” at school as well. I’ve not read “Sense and Sensibility,” but I love her. I love how she writes

women and wit. She’s so funny. I do believe that Liz and Darcy have one of the greatest love stories. We’re trying to keep that love story really potent and alive in these much more extreme settings — settings that are life and death. Within the relationship of Liz and Darcy and all that unsaid frustration and longing, I find with my Liz Bennet

she expressed it more because she would fight zombies. This frustration would manifest in her decapitating a zombie. And their relationship is much more fiery, because right from the start Darcy almost kills Jane. It’s much more intensified, so there’s a real potent hatred. [Laughs] Slash love.

You don’t really have a shortage of handsomeness in this cast.

I know, it’s a lot of handsomeness. Sometimes I would look around at the girls, the five Bennet sisters, and my jaw would drop. I was like, wow. There’s two really unknown young girls in the Bennet sisters, Millie Brady and Ellie Bamber, who are just sensational. And then there’s Suki Waterhouse as well. The five of us together, it was so wonderful and inspiring to be amongst such strong young women. We had such fun conquering and taking control of the entire set.

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Super Bowl Sunday Eats

We asked chefs from the Carolinas and Colorado to provide their favorite game day recipes.

REENA KARASIN &
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Important question: Has your stomach pledged a Super Bowl allegiance yet? Here's a good way to find out. We asked chefs from the Denver Broncos and Carolina Panthers home turfs to help out.



Country Captain Chicken from The Lot in Charleston. PROVIDED

Chef RJ Dye's Country Captain Chicken

From The Lot in Charleston, S.C.

Ingredients

- 6 skin-on chicken thighs
- 4 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
- 3 celery stalks, chopped
- 2 green bell peppers (cored, seeded and chopped)
- 1 large yellow onion, chopped
- 28-ounce can crushed tomatoes
- 2 cups of chicken stock
- 3 tablespoons curry powder
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
- Kosher salt and freshly ground

black pepper, to taste

• ¼ cup of golden raisins and/or currants

- 2 cups steamed white rice, for serving
- 2 bay leaves (to be cooked in the rice)
- ½ cup of toasted, slivered almonds

Directions

1. Sauté onion and garlic together in a couple tablespoons of canola or olive oil. When they

get soft and translucent, add green peppers and celery.
2. Continue to cook on a low flame for 4 to 5 minutes. Add crushed tomatoes and simmer for an hour. Add chicken stock as the stew becomes thick to keep it nice and loose – silky is what you're going for.
3. While sauce is cooking, sear chicken thighs skin side down in a hot pan with 4 tablespoons of canola oil. Rotate chicken in the pan after a few minutes to get an even sear on the skin. Transfer chicken skin side up into a 400-degree oven to finish cooking for approximately 10 minutes.
4. After 1 hour of low simmering, add raisins and/or currants and curry powder. Cook until fruit is plump, approximately 5 minutes, then stir in butter. Serve over white rice and garnish with almonds.

Chefs Jeremy Kittelson and Daniel Asher's Sesame Barbecue Tacos

From Linger in Denver, Colo.

Ingredients

- 5 pounds beef short ribs
- 2 dozen 5-inch corn tortillas
- Korean barbecue sauce (see below)
- Cabbage, shredded
- 4 avocados
- 3 limes

Korean barbecue sauce

Yield: Approximately 1 quart

- 1 ¼ cups tamari (or soy)
- 1 ¼ cups pineapple juice
- 3 tablespoons mirin
- 3 tablespoons rice vinegar
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ¼ cup white sugar
- 1 teaspoon black pepper, ground
- ½ teaspoon Szechuan pepper, ground

- 1 star anise, ground
- 3 tablespoons sesame oil
- 4 large cloves garlic, peeled
- 1 medium shallot
- 1 knuckle fresh ginger peeled

Directions

1. Place shallots, garlic and ginger in a blender with the pineapple juice and tamari and blend until smooth. Stir all the sauce ingredients until the sugars dissolve.
2. Marinate the beef short ribs in the Korean barbecue sauce for two days. Dice the marinated short ribs to be ½ inch by ½ inch.
3. Put a large pan on the stove and get it very hot. Add enough oil to cover the bottom of the pan, then put the diced short ribs into the pan. Allow

it to caramelize nicely while stirring it occasionally. Once it has a nice rich color, add the Korean barbecue sauce to the pan and bring it to a simmer.

4. Allow it to simmer for 3-4 hours, or until the beef is tender. Stir occasionally and add more Korean barbecue sauce as necessary to keep the beef covered. If you run out of sauce, use water.

Taco assembly

Cut the avocados into slices and lightly salt them. Lightly dress fresh shredded cabbage with lime juice, salt and extra virgin olive oil. Fill the tortillas with the taco filling. Place a scoop of the cabbage and an avocado slice on each taco. Serve with lime wedges.



Sesame Barbecue Tacos from Linger in Denver. PROVIDED

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We have sore-loser beer suggestions for our other cities online! JAMIE LOFTUS

Your super Super Bowl beer guide

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The Super Bowl should be held the Sunday before Presidents' Day. It doesn't matter whether they accomplish this by delaying the game a week or by tinkering with Washington's birth certificate, but one way or another we need to arrange it so more people have the day after the Super Bowl off work. This would enable us to ease back into the week after drinking beer and yelling at the TV all night, plus it would have the added bonus of throwing the dating-industrial complex into a fake tizzy whenever the game coincided with Valentine's Day. Imagine all the hypothetical relationships we could pretend it wrecked!

But alas, the Super Bowl still comes a week too early, which means you only have a couple days left to stockpile beer. You could drink the same thing you always do, but why not get a little festive with

it and do some regional theme-drinking?

Presented below are beer suggestions representing both teams, plus the host city and your own hometown losers.

Denver Broncos

The Broncos are going to lose by 20, but at least they'll get to slink back home to a great beer state. If you're supporting their doomed endeavor, prepare yourself for the inevitable with Great Divide Titan IPA, a potent (7.1 percent alcohol-by-volume) and bitter blend of citrus and pine. If you'd rather bask in their demise, go with Joe's Premium American Pilsner from Avery Brewing, a crisp, floral and superior version of the dull light lagers that'll be shouting advertisements at you all game.

Carolina Panthers

This is a bit trickier, because while North Carolina is also a state blessed with excellent beer, the craft brewing industry there is still relatively young, and none of the better indigenous outfits are shipping their beer up north yet. That means

we're going to have to settle for a couple of excellent brews from non-native operations that have recently opened up Carolina outposts, Sierra Nevada Pale Ale and Oskar Blues Pinner Session IPA. Sierra Nevada is the iconic American pale ale, bitter and resinous and perfect; Pinner is a bit lighter-bodied, with pronounced tropical and citrus character.

San Francisco

The game's being held in Santa Clara, California, 40 miles outside the beer mecca of San Francisco. Pay tribute with 21st Amendment's Down to Earth, a lightly bitter, heavily fruity session IPA with pronounced pineapple and grapefruit flavors.

New York

The Jets were kinda good this year, and the Giants were fun in their own way; honor their memories with Single-Cut's Billy Half-Stack, an assertive yet drinkable IPA from Astoria that provides steady malt structure beneath moderately bitter peach, mango and pine hops.

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Super Bowl 50: 10 storylines to watch on Sunday evening

Will it be Peyton Manning's ride into the sunset or Cam Newton's kingmaker?



EVAN MACY
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You've heard all the talk (or maybe you've tuned it out) from the players during this week's ramp-up to the Super Bowl.

And while the impending 60-minute dogfight between the Broncos and Panthers may not have the same sex appeal as games in the recent past, there are a bevy of interesting storylines in this one that will undoubtedly be brought to your attention during Sunday's four-hour broadcast.

Here's a brief primer on the top things to know about before kickoff this weekend as the Super Bowl reaches the half-century mark.

1 Peyton's farewell?

His regular-season numbers are astronomical — 71,940 passing yards, 539 touchdowns and 251 interceptions. His playoff numbers are just average — Manning is 13-13 in 26 playoff games and has just one Super Bowl ring in 18 years. Back again at age 39, what better way to call it a career and begin a walk to the NFL Hall of Fame than with a world championship with the Broncos, just as John Elway did nearly two decades ago? This could be the last time we see a living legend play the game we love.

2 Cam's coronation?

Carolina fans have watched Cam Newton mature over the last three seasons into the NFL's MVP front-runner and he certainly deserves much of the credit for the Panthers' high-octane offense this season. Should he



Cam Newton, with his flashy play and in-your-face style, will be looking to make a statement Sunday. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

succeed in Sunday's big game and become a Super Bowl champion, Newton will enter the hallowed ground of active NFL quarterbacks — joining Aaron Rodgers, Drew Brees, Eli Manning, Tom Brady and others who have held the Lombardi Trophy.

3 Defensive clash

Both the Broncos and Panthers are killers against the run, allowing the second- and third-least rushing yards in the NFL this season. Carolina led all teams with an impressive 24 interceptions, while both the Broncos and Panthers created 22 fumbles, tied for the most in football. Look for the turnover battle and battle for possession time to be key Sunday night.

4 Mile-high redemption

Many thought Manning was done when he left the Colts (replaced by Andrew Luck) and joined Elway's retooling of the Broncos fresh off their Tim Tebow experiment. But Manning recovered from back surgery and led the Broncos to the Super Bowl two seasons ago when they lost to the Seahawks in embarrassing fashion. At age 39, Manning once again is on the precipice of a title. Can he close the deal?

5 Stormin' Norman

He played football at Coastal Carolina. Yes, that's a college. And after four big interceptions, shut-down cornerback status and some entertaining quotes (seemingly every single

week), Josh Norman is one of the key cogs in Super Bowl 50. In the tradition of Malcolm Butler and Richard Sherman before him, Norman enters the biggest stage confident.

"This is what we've worked for our whole life, since we've been birthed into this world," Norman said. "I think this is what our destiny was to do."

6 Another Super Bowl scandal?

It's been buried but it's still kind of a big deal. Are allegations that Manning used HGH accurate? Last season it didn't seem to matter whether Deflategate was true, it stole the narrative of Super Bowl XLIX as well as the entire offseason. It will be interesting to see what happens next.

7 Davis' determination

Panthers' linebacker Thomas Davis broke his arm in the team's NFC title win over the Cardinals. He doesn't care, he's suiting up.

"If there's any way, any chance, any opportunity to play in the Super Bowl," he said, "I'm going to do it."

8 Star-studded halftime

For many people, the 12 minutes in the middle of the Super Bowl are more important than the game. This year's spectacle will star Coldplay and Beyoncé along with a full orchestra. Will it rival past performances from Prince? Bruce Springsteen? Tom Petty? Janet Jackson (and Justin Timberlake)?

9 In the trenches

The Broncos' front seven, led by Von Miller, led the NFL with 52 sacks. Will he be able to get to Newton? The Panthers also have a line to be reckoned with boasting 44 regular season sacks. The battle at the line of scrimmage will be key Sunday.

10 Happy 50th

In 1966 it all began when the Packers beat the Chiefs in Super Bowl I. A lot has changed in 50 years, as the game has transformed into the highest-rated television and sporting event on the planet. How will the golden anniversary measure up to its predecessors?

Predictions



Matt Burke

The Panthers will do what the Patriots could not do and pick off Peyton Manning multiple times. Cam Newton will do just enough against that terrific Denver D. Panthers, 20-10.



Evan Macy

The Panthers are six-point favorites Sunday and I am picking them to cover. While my heart will be pushing for Peyton Manning to add a storybook ending to one of the most prolific careers in football, I think the Carolina defense will be too much for Manning to handle. Panthers, 31-20



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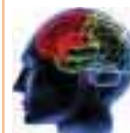
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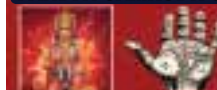
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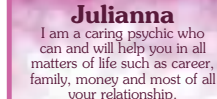
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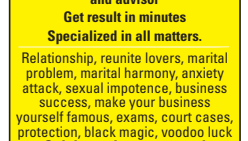
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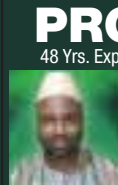
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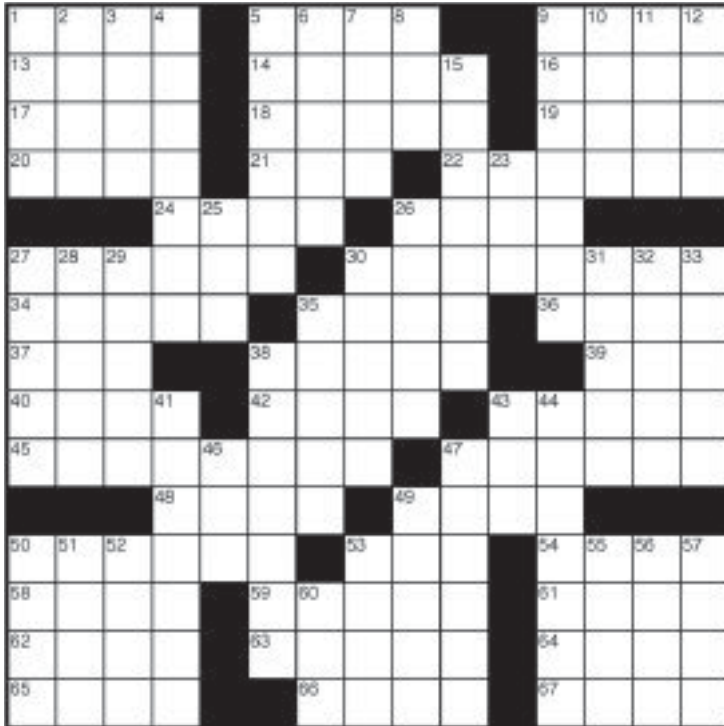
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Across

- 1 Wisecrack
5 Newscaster Brit —
9 Enthrall
13 Natural impulse
14 Port near Kyoto
16 Beehive state
17 Underway
18 Hurdled
19 Lox purveyor
20 Kind of horse
21 T. —
22 Rights a wrong
24 Borodin prince
26 Sun — (horologe)
27 Sighed loudly
30 False charge (3 wds.)
34 Do some garage work
35 Write a program
36 Engage
37 Tyke
38 Packed straw
39 Scale meas.
40 On any occasion
42 Paleozoic et al
43 "Ya dig?" (2 wds.)
45 Electrical device
47 Crows over
48 Fish alternative
49 Diary opener
50 Disturb or vex
53 "Crooklyn" director
54 Trickle down

- 58 Indigo plant
59 On both feet
61 Russo of "Tin Cup"
62 Catch a wave
63 Kind of blockade
64 Louts
65 New singles
66 — E. Coyote
67 Map a course

Down

- 1 Thigh muscle
2 Bear up there
3 Disney CEO Bob —
4 Moxing out
5 Dragster (2 wds.)
6 Groom's man

- 7 "Das Kapital" author
8 Barely manage
9 Valentino of the silents
10 — — foot pole
11 Turn white
12 Nearest one
15 Was in store for
23 Frat letter
25 Ike's rank
26 Flashy dressers
27 "The candlestick — . ."
28 Oil source
29 Candy strippers
30 Of interest to Amundsen
31 Spurns a lover
32 Moon track
33 Outdoes
35 Wassailers' tune
38 In the middle
41 Thumbs through
43 — — step further
44 Pendant jewelry
46 Earth's star
47 Bug on the road
49 Window sticker
50 In short supply
51 PC system
52 Bona — (genuine)
53 Name in blue jeans
55 Actual
56 The skinny
57 Ant at a picnic
60 Like sushi

metro.us/sudoku

easy

	8			9	2	1		
	5			7	1	4		3
	6	1						
		7			3			8
3								4
1			7			6		
						9	4	
2		4	9	3			8	
		9	5	8			7	

hard

1		2				3	9	
					9			7
				5	2	4	8	1
2		5						
	8		7		5		2	
						5		3
3		7	4	8	6			
6			1					
	9	1				4		6

metro.us/horoscopes



Aries Slow down and take your time. Haste will make waste and could lead to feuds that will set you back personally or professionally. Focus on personal changes that will help you be your best.



Taurus The more you interact with others, the further ahead you will be. Sharing your feelings and showing interest in what's going on around you will also encourage love and romance.



Gemini Take care of business before someone complains that you are not doing your share. Bring about changes to ensure that you don't lose the respect of someone influential.



Cancer Maintain a positive attitude and be willing to discuss how you would like to see the future unfold. Your desire to please loved ones will bring substantial returns.



Leo Don't let uncertainty dominate your mind. Size up your situation and bring about change. An educational journey will bring you closer to your lifelong dream. Don't fold under pressure.



Virgo Avoid interference by staying ahead of your opponents. If you play to win, you will make it clear who is in charge. The outcome will be in your favor. Love is highlighted.



Libra Formulate a plan that will ensure your safety. Work quietly, perfecting what is important to you. Your time will come, and you want to be fully prepared.



Scorpio A partnership is in your best interest. If you choose someone who is very different from you, what you both bring to the table will result in something very special. Romance is featured.



Sagittarius Keep your life simple and steer clear of obsessive situations that can only lead to discomfort and discord. Time is on your side, so take a break.



Capricorn Stand up and be counted. What you have to contribute will make a difference and raise your profile. Make plans to celebrate your victory with a loved one.



Aquarius Get into tip-top shape. Invest in yourself and be disciplined in your quest to be the best you can be. Bring about positive change and strive for perfection.



Pisces It's a good day to check out new possibilities. If you offer help, you will be granted favors. Go beyond the call of duty. Make love a priority and plan a romantic evening. **EUGENIA LAST**

Yesterday's answers



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Mayor
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